

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An intelligent network server, comprising:  
2 a message transport module for receiving messages from a communications  
3 network;  
4 at least one subsystem coupled to the message transport module, running an  
5 application for performing network services or functions;  
6 an operations management module coupled to the message transport module and  
7 the at least one subsystem, performing local operations management for the application.
- 1 2. The intelligent network server of Claim 1 comprising a plurality of subsystems  
2 coupled to the message transport module, running a plurality of applications for  
3 performing network services or functions.
- 1 3. The intelligent network server of Claim 2 wherein the operations management  
2 module performs local operations management for the plurality of applications.
- 1 4. The intelligent network server of Claim 1 wherein the operations management  
2 module reports a unified status of the intelligent network server via the message transport  
3 module.
- 1 5. The intelligent network server of Claim 1 wherein the operations management  
2 module monitors events for the application.

1 6. The intelligent network server of Claim 5 wherein the operations management  
2 module creates an event log recording the history of events for the application.

1 7. The intelligent network server of Claim 5 wherein the operations management  
2 module processes the events of the applications to determine the status of the  
3 application.

1 8. The intelligent network server of Claim 5 wherein the operations management  
2 module processes the events of the application using predetermined performance  
3 characteristics for the application to determine the status of the application.

1 9. The intelligent network server of Claim 3 wherein the operations management  
2 module determines the individual status of each of the plurality of applications.

1 10. The intelligent network server of Claim 1 wherein the operations management  
2 module initiates corrective measures to avoid a fault or error condition for the application  
3 or to enhance performance of the application.

1 11. The intelligent network server of Claim 10 wherein the corrective measures  
2 comprise routing network messages to another application.

1 12. The intelligent network server of Claim 9 wherein the operations management  
2 module homogenizes the individual status of each of the applications to determine a  
3 unified status of the intelligent network server.

1 13. The intelligent network server of Claim 4 wherein the unified status is indicative of  
2 the overall status of the intelligent network server.

1 14. The intelligent network server of Claim 4 wherein the unified status is reported in  
2 the same manner as the status of any other network device or node in the network.

1 15. The intelligent network server of Claim 9 wherein uniform criteria is used to  
2 indicate the status of each of the applications.

1 16. The intelligent network server of Claim 1 wherein the operations management  
2 module identifies when a fault or error condition for the application may occur or is  
3 occurring.

1 17. The intelligent network server of Claim 1 wherein the network is a public switched  
2 telephone network or PSTN.

1 18. The intelligent network server of Claim 4 wherein the unified status is reported to  
2 network operations management.

1 19. The intelligent network server of Claim 18 wherein the network operations  
2 management is performed on a network device remote from the intelligent network  
3 server.

1 20. The intelligent network server of Claim 1 wherein the local operations  
2 management is integrated with the transactions-level processing of the applications.

1 21. A network system, comprising:  
2 a communications network;  
3 an intelligent network server coupled to the communications network performing  
4 local operation management for subsystems on the intelligent network server; and  
5 a network operations management device coupled to the communications  
6 network.

1 22. The network of Claim 21 wherein the local operations management on the  
2 intelligent network server reports a unified status message to the network operations  
3 management, where the message is indicative of the overall status of the subsystems on  
4 the intelligent network server.

1 23. The network of Claim 22 wherein the message is reported in the same manner as  
2 the status of any other network device or node in the network.

1 24. The network of Claim 22 wherein the message is an SS7 message.

1 25. An intelligent network server comprising:  
2 - means for performing operations management for multiple applications on an  
3 intelligent network server; and  
4 - means for reporting a unified status for the intelligent network server to network  
5 operations management.

1 26. A method of performing operations management on an intelligent network server,  
2 comprising:

3 performing local operations management for multiple applications on an intelligent  
4 network server; and

5 reporting a unified status for the intelligent network server to network operations  
6 management.

7 27. The method of Claim 26 wherein the unified status is determined from the  
8 individual status of each of the applications running on the intelligent network server.

1 28. The method of Claim 26 wherein the unified status is reported in the same manner  
2 as the status of any other network device or node in the network.

1 29. The method of Claim 26 wherein performing local operations management  
2 comprises:

3 monitoring events of each application;

4 processing the events using predetermined performance criteria for the  
5 applications; and  
6 determining the individual status of each application.

1 30. The method of Claim 29 further comprising homogenizing the individual status of  
2 each application into the unified status for the intelligent network server.

1 31. The method of Claim 26 wherein the network operations management is  
2 performed on a network device remote from the intelligent network server.

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